

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01

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SUBJECT: MAJOR CONFERENCE ON US-EUROPEAN-FRG ECONOMIC
RELATIONSHIPS MAR 24-26

REF: A. BONN 2397; B. BONN 21201 (1976)

1. PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THE GERMAN PUBLIC REACTION TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S ECONOMIC POLICY INITIATIVES HAS BEEN SO SKEPTICAL (REFTEL A), I HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR TWO SENIOR USG OFFICIALS TO SPEAK AT THE FORTHCOMING BONN CONFERENCE, COSPONSORED BY THE EMBASSY AND THE KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION, ON "THE ECONOMIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN A CHANGING WORLD... A GERMAN-AMERICAN DIALOGUE."

2. THIS MARCH 24-26 CONFERENCE WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY UNIQUE IN THE FRG DURING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1977 TO FORCEFULLY ADDRESS, IN PUBLIC AND WITH EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE, (A) THE EXTENT TO WHICH U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY IS BEING FORMULATED AND CONDUCTED
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IN A GLOBALLY-RESPONSIBLE FRAMEWORK, AND (B) THE USG RATIONALE FOR THE FRG AND OTHER NATIONS TO ALSO PURSUE COORDINATIVELY STIMULATIVE POLICIES. THE TOPIC OF THE CONFERENCE ITSELF IS FORTUITOUS, PERMITTING THE REPEATING AND EXPANDING OF THE PRINCIPAL POINTS MADE HERE IN JANUARY DURING THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

3. TWO ADDRESSES ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AND APPROPRIATE, IN MY VIEW: THE PRESENTATION ON "DOMESTIC ECONOMIC POLICIES AND PRIORITIES IN THE UNITED STATES," AND "UNITED STATES ECONOMIC POLICIES AND PRIORITIES IN RELATION TO THE "THIRD WORLD." IT WOULD SERVE CURRENT U.S. INTERESTS HERE VERY WELL WERE THESE TWO TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED BY ANY TWO OF THE FOLLOWING PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS: SECRETARY KREPS, UNDERSECRETARY COOPER, UNDERSECRETARY SOLOMON, CHAIRMAN SCHULTZE AND/OR ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERGSTEN. OTHERS MAY ALSO BE APPROPRIATE, BUT ONE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL GERMAN COUNTERPART PRESENTATIONS WILL BE GIVEN BY ECONOMICS MINISTER HANS FRIDERICH.

4. BOTH MAJOR U.S. ADDRESSES WOULD TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, MARCH 25. A POTENTIALLY QUITE USEFUL PANEL DISCUSSION ON "THE AGENDA OF GERMAN-AMERICAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS" IS SET FOR THE MORNING OF SATURDAY, MARCH 26. IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS WERE THE USG SPEAKERS ALSO ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PANEL DISCUSSION.

5. WITH THE CONFERENCE ONLY SIX WEEKS AWAY, CONFIRMATION OF APPROPRIATE USG SPEAKERS SHOULD BE RECEIVED HERE BY FEBRUARY 18. SHOULD SUCH USG REPRESENTATION NOT BE POSSIBLE, THE OPTION EXISTS OF EITHER CANCELLING THE CONFERENCE OR ATTEMPTING ITS POSTPONEMENT UNTIL AUTUMN. CONSIDERING THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISELY THESE TOPICS, HOWEVER, AS WELL AS THE DESIRABILITY OF TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS TIMELY FORUM TO STATE BASIC U.S. UNCLASSIFIED

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POLICY POSITIONS IN A PARTICULARLY-APPROPRIATE FORUM IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL, IT WOULD SEEM TO ME REGRETTABLE WERE WE NOT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY--AS WELL AS THE SIMULTANEOUS OPPORTUNITY WHICH THE CONFERENCE WILL PERMIT FOR THESE SAME OFFICIALS TO MEET MORE DISCREETLY WITH LEADING GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMIC OFFICIALS. STOESSEL

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Decaption Note:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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